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22). This piece of pottery is evidently made of clay and sand. It is comparatively smooth on the inside, but more or less regularly wrinkled or ridged on the outside, the ridges undoubtedly being intended for ornamentation. On the inside of the piece of pottery there are two holes, which appear as if punched with a round instrument while the pottery was yet in a plastic state; the round instrument was not forced clear through the substance, but so nearly through that the material was raised into a protuberance on the outside, just where each hole would have been had the instrument been forced through. One of these protuberances appears as if worn off, and thus an opening has been made from one side to the other; the opening on the outside, however, is very small, as seen by the figure.\* Two arrowheads, one of very fine jasper, and the other of coarse jasper, were found with the pottery.

About fifty rods farther down the stream, and on a much lower terrace, Mr. Winship called my attention to what he called a "race-course." It was apparently an old race-course, circular, and with a diameter of two hundred and fifty or three hundred feet; and the "track" is quite plain, being indicated by a well marked depression. That this is no modern affair is shown by the stump of a large oak which is standing right in the middle of the track, and which of course shows us that the tree of which it is a part grew from an acorn which germinated there since the track ceased to be used.—Sanborn Tenney, Williams College.

## NOTES.

Professor Agassiz recently addressed the Massachusetts Legislative Committee on Public Education, on the present needs and future prospects of the Museum of Comparative Zoology. He stated that the annual income amounts to a little over \$10,000. This was insufficient to pay the salaries of the corps of twenty-six assistants, and individuals had generously aided the institution by gifts of from \$1500, to \$6000. The total amounts of these contributions, including grants, was \$473,000. Its immediate neces-

<sup>\*&</sup>quot;Indian" pottery is often ornamented with circular impressions on the outside, probably made by a small hollow bone or reed, but this is the first instance that has come under my notice of the impression being made on the inside.—F. W. P.

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sity, though no criterion for the future, is \$50,000, for the arrangement of specimens alone; \$25,000 will be needed for other purposes.

The state of Massachusetts has been generous to Professor Agassiz, as Director of what we may safely say, is, on the whole the best conducted, and in many respects most liberal museum in the world. The time is ripe for the immediate development of a museum, that shall in all its appointments be a model for all others, and we trust the liberal minded citizens of a state which owes so much to science for its wealth and the development of its intellect, will not let this golden opportunity pass.

Millions have been voted for developing the material resources of the state. Shall not a museum, which has already done so much in elevating the standard of scientific learning in our country, have its thousands? From motives of simple economy in money, and as one of the preventives against ignorance, and crime, the result of inherited ignorance, we would as editors of a scientific journal heartily urge liberal legislation to foster science and education. It is by the endowment of the higher institutions of learning, and our museums and laboratories, that popular education will be hereafter best advanced in our country.

Capt. C. H. Hall has his vessel on the stocks at Washington in preparation for her work among the ice, and is carefully selecting the proper persons to assist in his expedition. The scientific assistants have not yet been definitely settled upon.

We have had inquiries about "a work on Ferns, by Miss Paine," recently, or soon to be, published. Can any of our readers give us information about it?

The Indian Government have resolved to institute a general archæological survey of the whole of India. Maj. Gen. Cunningham has been appointed Surveyor-General. He is, according to Trübner's American and Oriental Literary Record, perhaps the only one thoroughly competent for the post.

A large number of the animals at the Jardin des Plantes and Jardin d' Acclimation have been sold and slaughtered for food.

A quarto work on the Texas cattle disease prepared by the Agricultural Department, is just out, that is, printed, not published.

"The History of Zoology," by Victor Carus, is already in great part printed.

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The mining volume of the reports on the survey of the 40th parallel, by Messrs. Clarence King and I. T. Gardner, is in press and will be the most thorough and valuable work on the mines of precious metals ever published in America. The report of the ornithologist, Mr. Robert Ridgeway, is already completed in manuscript, and will contain a valuable series of most minute and careful observations on the habits, distribution and variations of the birds of the Rocky Mountain Region. These reports when finished will be a record of by far the most thorough geodetic survey ever carried through on this continent. Mr. King is now busy on the geology, etc., at New Haven, having returned from a series of mountain measurements which have engaged his attention during the summer.

The scientists who have accompanied the San Domingo Commission, are Prof. Wm. P. Blake, principal mineralogist and geologist, and two assistants, one from Yale and one from Harvard; Dr. Parry, botanist, with an assistant from the Cambridge Scientific School; Prof. Newcombe of Cornell University, general naturalist; Prof. Ward, University of Rochester, assistant geologist; Hon. George Geddes, ex-President of New York State Agricultural Society, and State Engineer, in the agricultural interest.

The California Academy of Science appeals to the public for aid in erecting a building for its museum and library. The liberal minded citizens of San Francisco may remember that while aiding in the advance of science in their own community, scientists elsewhere will largely benefit from a generous endowment of this society, which has already done so much in developing a knowledge of the natural and physical history of the Pacific slope of our continent.

The lovers of Botany in Camden, N. J., have instituted "a Botanical Circle," and publish in the local press interesting accounts of their meetings, which are held monthly. Mr. F. Bourquin has detected two rare mosses, *Diphyscium foliosum* and *Buxbaumia aphylla*, at Camden. The latter has also been found at Camden by Miss C. A. Boice.

Capt. Hall is quietly organizing his Polar expedition, and has abundant sympathy from the President and others in his work.

Gen. Sherman has been appointed one of the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution in place of Gen. Delafield, resigned.